AP US History

Chapter 31: To a New Conservatism 1968-1988

*While most of the 20th century had been about the emerging supremacy of the US as a world power, it seemed like the “glory days” were coming to an end. The 1970’s brought internal self inflicted problems as well as external challenges beyond our direct control. Political scandal, foreign policy challenges and economic difficulties dominated the attention of the nation. Were the American people and the US system of government up to the challenge? Is the notion of America as the City on the Hill in decline? Are the promotion and protection of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness simply a thing of the past? The story continues to unfold.*

**Reagan and America’s Shift to the Right**

1. What were the three issues that gave Reagan strong appeal to the rising middle class?

a. b. c.

2. How was Conservatism aided by the “Moral Majority”?

3. What were the Neo-conservatism views toward liberals?

**The Tempting of Richard Nixon**

4. Explain the purpose of affirmative action and how Nixon supported the program?

5. What was the reason for developing the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)?

6. Define the idea “New Federalism” and how did it work?

7. Explain the purpose of Détente and how it led to SALT?

8. What was Nixon’s three-part plan in ending the Vietnam War AND how were they received (explain in detail)?

a.

b.

c.

9. What was the end result of the Vietnam War?

10. Explain the events that led up to the “Watergate Scandal”?

11. What evidence ultimately forced Nixon to resign?

12. At the end of this section what does the text infer as one of the positive lesson’s learned from the Watergate experience?

**The Economy and Stagflation**

13. Which events led to OPEC putting an oil embargo in 1973 on the United States? What was the effect on our economy?

14. Explain the lesson that America learned after the energy crisis?

15. What was the primary source of inflation throughout the 1970’s? Explain why?

16. What were some of the other causes (secondary) that led to an economic decline throughout the 1970’s?

17. Which industries suffered throughout the 1970’s? Which industries thrived throughout the 1970’s?

**Private Lives, Public Issues**

18. How did the American family structure change significantly during the second half of the 20th century?

19. What were the two goals of the women’s movement? Explain the purpose of both?

20. Identify the social impact of the Gay Liberation Movement.

21. How did the AIDS epidemic reflect the political and social challenges of the time?

**Politics and Diplomacy after Watergate**

22. What did Ford do that shocked the public when he took over the presidency?

23. How was Carter portrayed during the 1976 presidential election?

24. How did Carter demonstrate strong diplomacy in the Camp David Accords?

25. Why did the Iranian hostage crisis occur?

26. Which event brought about the “Carter Doctrine,” ending détente with the Soviet Union?

**The Reagan Revolution**

27. Identify what the “misery index” consists of and what is was in the early part of 1980 under Carter?

28. Identify:

Supply Side Economics (what were the positives and negatives)

Deregulation (what were the positives and negatives)

29. How does Reagan’s administration upset the feminist movement and Civil Rights activists?

30. Read pages 918-919 and tell me what groups made up the Moral Majority and which political party did they side with?

31. How did Reagan justify the development for new weapons and an increase in defense spending?

32. Explain the purpose of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)

33. Look at the map on page 921 and summarize the United States involvement in Central America.

34. Look at the map on page 922 and summarize the United Sates involvement in the Middle East.

35. What scandal did Reagan survive in the mid 1980’s?

36. Explain the importance of the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF)